

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 044412  
ORIGIN AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SIG-01 MMO-01 /011 R

66011

DRAFTED BY: AF/I:SMERCURIO

APPROVED BY: AF/I:SMERCURIO

-----010124 082133 /73

P 282322Z FEB 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO OAU COLLECTIVE PRIORITY

XMT AMEMBASSY LOME

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 044412

FOLLOWING REPEAT LOME 520 ACTION SECSTATE DTD 26 FEB

QTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L LOME 0520

DEPT PASS OAU COLLECTIVE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PORG, OAU

SUBJECT: MULTI-LATERAL AFFAIRS: OAU COUNCIL OF MINISTERS MEETING,  
LOME, FEB. 21-28

REF: (A) LOME 474, (B) LOME 483, (C) LOME 509,

1. BENIN. COUNCIL OF MINISTERS HEARD PRELIMINARY  
REPORT OF COMMISSION OF INQUIRY ON MERCENARY INVASION  
OF BENIN DURING SESSION OF FEB. 25. REPORT IMPLICATES  
MOROCCO AND GABON AS BACKERS OF RAID. ACCORDING  
TO REPORT MERCENARIES WERE TRAINED IN MOROCCO  
AND TOOK OFF FOR RAID FROM FRANCEVILLE IN GABON.  
THE COUNCIL CONCLUDED, AFTER MUCH HEATED DEBATE,  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 044412

THAT THE COMMISSION OF INQUIRY SHOULD CONTINUE ITS  
INVESTIGATION AND SUBMIT FINAL REPORT TO AN EXTRA-  
ORDINARY SUMMIT MEETING OF OAU. SEPARATE REPORT,  
WHICH ALSO CHARGES MOROCCO AND GABON, PREPARED BY  
PETER ONU, OAU ASSISTANT SECRETARY GENERAL, WILL  
ALSO BE SUBMITTED TO THE EXTRAORDINARY SUMMIT.  
OAU SECRETARIAT IS CHARGED WITH CIRCULARIZING

CHIEFS OF STATE TO DETERMINE DATE FOR THE EXTRA-ORDINARY SUMMIT; HOWEVER, THERE IS CONSIDERABLE SPECULATION THAT THE EXTRAORDINARY SUMMIT ON BENIN WILL BE PIGGY-BACKED ON THE SUMMIT ON SPANISH SAHARA NOW TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR APRIL 28.

2. DJIBOUTI. THE OAU FINISHED DISCUSSION OF DJIBOUTI ON FEB. 25 AND SEVEN-MAN DELEGATION HEADED BY OMAR FARA ILTERH AND AHMED DINI ALLEGEDLY REPRESENTING ALL DJIBOUTI FACTIONS EXCEPT THE "NEW" LEADERSHIP OF THE NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE UNION LEAVES FEB. 26 FOR PARIS TO OPEN NEGOTIATIONS WITH FRENCH ON INDEPENDENCE. FOLLOWING THE DISCUSSION IN PARIS THE DJIBOUTI FACTIONS WILL MEET IN ACCRA MARCH 28-31 FOR ROUND-TABLE DISCUSSIONS TO ARRIVE AT A COMMON POLITICAL PLATFORM FOR THE FUTURE GOVERNMENT OF DJIBOUTI. GHANAIAN COMMISSIONER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS FELLI IS TO CHAIR ROUND-TABLE. IN THE OAU COMMITTEE DISCUSSIONS ON DJIBOUTI, ONLY THE TWO LIBERATION MOVEMENTS RECOGNIZED BY THE OAU WERE ALLOWED TO TAKE THE FLOOR, THE FRONT DE LIBERATION DE LA COTE DES SOMALIS (FLCS) AND THE MOUVEMENT POUR LA LIBERATION DE DJIBOUTI (MLD). BY PREARRANGEMENT THESE MOVEMENTS SPOKE ON BEHALF OF ALLIED DJIBOUTI POLITICAL FACTIONS.

3. RHODESIA. DISCUSSION CONTINUED IN COMMITTEE  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 044412

ON PROCEDURAL QUESTION OF WHICH RHODESIAN LEADERS WILL BE ALLOWED TO ADDRESS THE OAU, BUT NO FINAL DECISION WAS TAKEN AS OF CLOSE OF SESSION OF FEB. 25.

4. LAW OF SEA. THE OAU COMMITTEE DEALING WITH LAW OF THE SEA ADOPTED THE REPORT PREPARED BY THE SECRETARY GENERAL AND REQUESTED THE SECRETARIAT TO CONVENE A MEETING IN LAGOS DURING THE MONTH OF APRIL TO PREPARE A COMMON AFRICAN POSITION PRIOR TO THE RESUMED LOS CONFERENCE IN NEW YORK. WE UNDERSTAND THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S REPORT IS QUITE CRITICAL OF THE U.S. POSITION, BUT LACK DETAILS AT THIS TIME.

PALMER

UNQTE VANCE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MEETING AGENDA, REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, MINISTERIAL MEETINGS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 28-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977STATE044412  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** AF/I:SMERCURIO  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770069-0297  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t1977021/aaaaabcn.tel  
**Line Count:** 112  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** b73a1fbf-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ORIGIN AF  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 LOME 474, 77 LOME 483, 77 LOME 509  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 30-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3228970  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** MULTI-LATERAL AFFAIRS: OAU COUNCIL OF MINISTERS MEETING, LOME, FEB. 21-28  
**TAGS:** PFOR, PORG, XA, OAU  
**To:** OAU COLLECTIVE LOME  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/b73a1fbf-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009